

to guarantee profits for pharmaceutical companies and HMOs at taxpayer expense. And all Americans will be affected by the rising interest rates caused by our out-of-control Federal deficit.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is fiscally irresponsible, completely unnecessary and threatens America's fiscal security, as well as our national security. President Bush's fiscal year 2007 budget calls for \$247 billion in interest payments on our national debt. This is \$247 billion not going to educate our children or keep America secure, but instead is going to wealthy investors and foreign governments that have purchased our Nation's debt. Now, this Republican Congress is adding almost \$80 billion more on the national debt, adding to the federal budget deficit and our Nation's fiscal insecurity. This is an irresponsible and dangerous piece of legislation that makes America less secure. I urge my colleagues to reject this latest Republican cut-and-run tax giveaway and focus on the needs of American families.

#### RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN ANGUS ASSOCIATION

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 27, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the American Angus Association, based in St. Joseph, Missouri. This month will mark the 50th anniversary of the American Angus Association's move to St. Joseph from Chicago in 1956.

The American Angus Association is a member-based not-for-profit organization that was founded in 1883. The Association maintains ancestral records and performance information on purebred Angus cattle in the United States, as well offers a variety of programs and services to over 34,000 members across the nation. All of these programs are managed by a very hardworking and dedicated staff.

In the 50 years since moving to St. Joseph, the Association and its entities have grown to employ nearly 200 people. That growth has seen the expansion of the original building that was once on the edge of the city. After several additions to the structure, the Association was able to house two of its entities: Angus productions, Inc. and the Angus Foundation. From humble beginnings in the home of its early executives, the American Angus Association has come a long way in 123 years of service to America's cattlemen.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing the American Angus Association. The Association has been remarkable in its many years of service and the city of St. Joseph is proud to be their home. I wish to thank the American Angus Association for all that they do and I am honored to represent them in the United States Congress.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF  
MR. CHUCK AND MRS. EVELYN  
SEBES IN CELEBRATION OF  
THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVER-  
SARY: JUNE 16, 2006

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 27, 2006*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Chuck and Evelyn Sebes, as they celebrate 50 years of love and commitment that continues to lift the lives of family, friends, and extends outward into our community.

Chuck and Evelyn met in 1953 and wed 3 years later on June 16, 1956. In 1959, they bought their home in Parma, where they still live. Evelyn was employed by Ohio Bell for several years and decided to leave the workforce to devote her time to her children. Together, Evelyn and Chuck lovingly raised their four children: Joe, Jim, Janet, and Joyce. Later, Evelyn returned to work part-time for Higbees and Dillards, and worked at both stores for a total of nearly 30 years.

Chuck worked for National Tool Company for 22 years until the company closed. While there, he served as President of the United Steel Workers of America, Local 4827, a tenure which reflected his unwavering focus on the rights and welfare of workers and their families. Chuck was later appointed to the Ohio Regional Board of Review for Worker's Compensation by then Governor Richard Celeste. In 1991, he was appointed by Martin E. Vittardi, Clerk of Parma Municipal Court, to serve as his Chief Deputy, where he continues his service today. Chuck has served as a Cuyahoga County Democratic Party Precinct committee person and as an Executive Committee member and is the longest serving City Leader for the Parma Democratic Party. He is an active member of Parma Southwest COPE, AFL-CIO and together with Evelyn they belong to Parma Elks Lodge 1938. Chuck and Evelyn's passionate sense of volunteerism, especially on behalf of improving wages and working conditions for workers, continues to positively impact countless families throughout our community.

The bond they share with their children comes from life lessons that Chuck and Evelyn taught them while growing up. To be selfless, to lead a life of volunteerism, to live by the golden rule—"do unto others as you would have them do unto you"—and to remember that there is nothing as important as God's gift of family. The memory of their mother's soft skin while holding them reminds them of a safe and loving childhood. It was the sound of their father's voice telling them colorful stories and jokes that brought laughter into their home. Their grandchildren Danielle, Shelley, Jackie, Christopher, Lauren, Samantha, and Jamie fill Chuck and Evelyn's lives with pride and love. At gatherings, it is Evelyn's potato salad and Chuck's ethnic dishes that everyone looks forward to. Time spent with friends playing pinochle and poker or bowling has formed lifelong friendships. Their legacy will be one of dedication to one another, to their family, and to their community.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of my dear friends, Chuck and Evelyn Sebes, as we join them in

celebration of this momentous occasion—their 50th wedding anniversary. Their devotion to each other, to their children, grandchildren and friends, and their commitment to giving back to others continues to touch the lives of everyone they I know, including my own, and serves to strengthen and uplift our entire community.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 5638, PERMANENT ES-  
TATE TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

#### HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 22, 2006*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5638, the Permanent Estate Tax Relief Act of 2006, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against it.

As a part-time farmer myself, I support tax relief that helps our farms and small businesses grow. I have supported raising the estate tax exemption level several times in previous years. However, this must be done in a responsible manner that does not dishonor our values, shortchange our essential services, or heap more debt on our children and grandchildren. Unfortunately, H.R. 5638 fails this basic test. H.R. 5638, the Permanent Estate Tax Relief Act of 2006 is far from the "compromise" that its authors claim. This bill would result in almost 80 percent as much lost revenue as a full repeal of the estate tax. H.R. 5638 would cost the American people \$762 billion in the first 10 years of its enactment.

The Permanent Estate Tax Relief Act of 2006 is the latest example of this Congressional Majority's misplaced priorities. Less than 1 percent of estates will pay the estate tax this year under the exemption in current law and only 7,500 estates nationwide would be taxable under the \$3.5 million exemption that would take effect in 2009. Under current law, 997 of every 1,000 estates would not pay any part of Federal estate taxes. Given current circumstances, the timing could not be worse for giving tax breaks that only apply to multi-millionaires' estates.

I am very proud that during my first term in the U.S. House, Congress and the President balanced the Federal budget for the first time in a generation. Until just a few years ago, the budget remained balanced and the surpluses we produced were being used to pay down the national debt and strengthen Social Security. The current Republican regime in the White House and Congress has reversed that progress and the Nation is much worse off because of their policies. Today the national debt stands at \$8.4 trillion. We face the danger of being forced to borrow more money from countries like China to pay our national debt and putting ourselves at the mercy of their rising interest rates. A nation at war cannot justify adding almost \$800 billion to this staggering debt. We cannot continue to pile on debt that our future generations will be forced to pay.

Increasing this budget shortfall only makes it more difficult to invest in our true priorities. We are still a nation at war and some of our soldiers lack the best armor. We are facing another hurricane season while continuing to rebuild the Gulf Coast following Hurricane